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Message Text

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ACTION SWF-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AF-04 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 RSC-01

OES-02 H-01 L-02 OIC-02 AEC-05 SP-02 AID-05 EB-04

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01

AGR-05 IO-10 COME-00 /099 W
---------- 089511
R 122100Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6387
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, BR
SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN PRESS REACTION TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 237804; BRASILIA 8517

1. SUMMARY: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RECEIVED FULL PRESS PLAY IN BRAZIL. REPORTING ON SECRETARY'S SPEECH CAST GENERALLY IN CRITICAL TERMS, WITH EMPHASIS ON ALLEGED IN-CONSISTENCY BETWEEN KISSINGER AND BUTZ STATEMENTS. FAVORABLE COVERAGE GIVEN TO BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL ON WORLD BANK FINANCING OF EMERGENCY STOCKS. COVERAGE FOCUSED LARGELY ON POLITICAL ATMOSPHERICS, TALLYING VARIOUS PROMISES BY RICH COUNTRIES AND DETAILING LDC CRITICISMS. BY WEEK-END SOMEWHAT MORE BALANCED ACCOUNTS OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH BEGAN TO APPEAR. PREDOMINANTLY NEGATIVE CAST OF BRAZILIAN PRESS SEEMS TO REFLECT PAST PRIVATE AS WELL AS OFFICIAL BRAZILIAN RESERVATIONS TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

2. BRAZILIAN PRESS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO
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SECRETARY'S OPENING WFC SPEECH BUT ARTICLES

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MAINLY GAVE SHORT SUMMARIES OF PROPOSALS WITH LITTLE
DIRECT QUOTATION. BY WEEKEND SOME REASONABLY BALANCED
SUMMARIES APPEARED. THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE
EDITORIAL COMMENT OR SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTION, BUT NEWS ARTICLES
ON WFC AND SECRETARY'S SPEECH HAVE HAD CRITICAL SLANT, NOTING
POSITIVE BUT BROAD NATURE OF US PROPOSALS AND ASSERTING LACK
OF ACTIONABLE DETAILS, WITH EXCEPTION OF COORDINATION ON
WORLD RESERVES. CONVERSELY, SOME OF MORE EXTRAVAGANT CHARGES
AND REFERENCES ABOUT RICH COUNTRIES CAUSING FOOD SHORTAGES
RECEIVED EXTENSIVE PRESS PLAY. ACCORDING TO THE ESTADO SAO
PAULO, BRAZILIAN "MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE PAULINELLI DID NOT
SHOW ENTHUSIASM WITH THE KISSINGER PRESENTATION. PAULINELLI
RECOGNIZED THAT NEW IDEAS WERE PRESENTED BY THE SPEECH,
BUT THOUGHT THE SPEECH HAD CAUSED THE CONFERENCE TO LOSE ITS
DYNAMICS. TO HIM (PAULINELLI) KISSINGER ADOPTED A COURSE WHICH
WAS CONTRARY TO THE WHOLE PREPARATION OF THE MEETING, WHICH
KISSINGER HIMSELF HELPED TO ARRANGE."

3. BOTH THE ESTADO AND THE JORNALDO BRASIL COVERED
WHAT THEY CALLED A CONFLICT BETWEEN KISSINGER AND BUTZ
WITH REGARD TO THE US POLICY TOWARD INTERNATIONAL CONTROL
OF STOCK PILES. THE JORNAL REPORTED THAT "THE PROPOSAL
OF KISSINGER TO IMMEDIATELY ORGANIZE A RESERVE COORDINATION
GROUP SEEMS TO BE IN CONTRADICTION TO THE DECLARATIONS
MADE MONDAY (NOV. 4) BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
OF THE UNITED STATES, EARL BUTZ, WHO CONSIDERED INEFFECTIVE
ANY INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF THE RESERVES OF EACH COUNTRY."

4. ALL PAPERS REPORTED RELATIVELY HEAVILY AND POSITIVELY
ON THE PROPOSAL MADE BY AGRICULTURAL MINISTER
PAULINELLI, CENTERING AROUND THE CREATION OF INCENTIVES
FOR COUNTRIES TO "DEPOSIT" FOOD RESERVES FOR EMERGENCY
USE WITH THE WORLD BANK.

5. THE ONLY BRAZILIAN PRIVATE SECTOR COMMENT REPORTED
BY THE PRESS WAS THAT OF MR. SALVIO DE ALMEIDA PRADO,
PRESIDENT OF THE BRAZILIAN RURAL SOCIETY. IN HIS VIEW,
THE CONFERENCE CONFIRMED THAT THE LONG HISTORY OF LOW
PRICES FOR PRIMARY PRODUCTS WAS THE PRINCIPAL REASON
FOR THE SLOW GROWTH OF AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT IN THE LDC'S.
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PRADO SUPPORTED A SYSTEM FOR STOCKS AND FINANCING OF
EVENTUAL SURPLUS AS SUGGESTED BY THE BRAZILIAN REPRESENTA-
TIVE TO THE CONFERENCE.
CRIMMINS

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